



City of Cleveland
Division of Animal Care & Control Services
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ANIMAL TRAPPING TIPS

Trapping and euthanizing healthy wildlife without addressing the root cause does not result in long term human/animal conflict resolution. Please refer to the Division's [Coexisting With Wildlife](#) [handout](#) for preferred solutions to wildlife conflicts.

For successful trapping of nuisance animals, wildlife, and stray pets, you should not only use the correct live trap but also bait and place the trap correctly. Learn the habits of your targeted animal: what foods it eats and the trails it uses to locate its food. You may want to immerse your trap in boiling water or place it outdoors in the sunshine for several days to help remove any unwanted scents. These unwanted scents can easily repel your targeted animal pest from your live trap. When carrying, setting or baiting your trap, wear gloves to hide your scent from animals. Human scent will scare many animals from your trap. You also do not want to handle animal bait with your bare hands.

- Wear Gloves When Transporting, Setting Trap
- Select Proper Trap for Animal
- Do Not Handle Bait with Bare Hands
- Use Correct Bait for Target Animal
- Place Trap in Known Trails of Target Animal
- Make Sure Trigger of Trap is Set Properly

This bait guide is provided as a general guideline, assuming that you are not quite sure what the animal you need to trap is eating.

Groundhog	Peanut butter, Lettuce, Cabbage and Tomatoes
Opossum	Apples, carrots, parsnips.
Raccoon	Fish, sweet corn, crisp bacon, marshmallows.
Skunk	Entrails of chicken, fresh and canned fish.